

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. A portable phone comprising:  
2 a position detector that detects geographical position of the portable phone; and  
3 a processor coupled to the position detector that determines whether or not to ring  
4 the portable phone based on the detected geographical position of the portable phone  
5 when a call is received by the portable phone.
- 1 2. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the position detector comprises a global  
2 positioning system (GPS) detector.
- 1 3. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the processor further determines  
2 characteristics of a ring signal based on the detected geographical position of the portable  
3 phone when the processor determines to ring the portable phone.
- 1 4. The portable phone of claim 3 wherein the characteristics of the ring signal  
2 include volume, type and tone of the ring signal.
- 1 5. The portable phone of claim 4 wherein the type of the ring signal includes an  
2 audible ring and a vibration ring.
- 1 6. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the processor does not ring the portable  
2 phone if the portable phone is in a predefined region.
- 1 7. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the processor rings the portable phone  
2 with increased volume if the portable phone is in a predefined region.

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1 8. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the processor rings the portable phone  
2 with a different ring tone if the portable phone is in a predefined region.

1 9. The portable phone of claim 1 further comprising a dial mechanism for selecting  
2 stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact, such that when a user selects  
3 the stored text, the dial mechanism dials a first stored telephone number when the  
4 portable phone is in a first defined region and dials a second stored telephone number  
5 when the portable phone is in a second defined region.

1 10. The portable phone of claim 1 further comprising a dial mechanism for selecting  
2 stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact, such that when a user selects  
3 the stored text, the dial mechanism dials a first stored telephone number and  
4 communicates the detected geographical position of the portable phone with the call to  
5 the first stored telephone number.

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- 1 11. A portable phone comprising:  
2 a position detector that detects geographical position of the portable phone; and  
3 a dial mechanism coupled to the position detector for selecting stored text that  
4 corresponds to a desired telephone contact, such that when a user selects the stored text,  
5 the dial mechanism dials a first stored telephone number when the portable phone is in a  
6 first defined region and dials a second stored telephone number when the portable phone  
7 is in a second defined region.

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1 12. A portable phone comprising:  
2 a position detector that detects geographical position of the portable phone; and  
3 a dial mechanism coupled to the position detector for selecting stored text that  
4 corresponds to a desired telephone contact, such that when a user selects the stored text,  
5 the dial mechanism dials a first stored telephone number and communicates the detected  
6 geographical position of the portable phone with the call to the first stored telephone  
7 number.

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- 1 13. A telephone system comprising:  
2 a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects geographical  
3 position of the portable phone;  
4 a defined geographical region that is assigned a telephone number;  
5 a processor coupled to the portable phone that determines from the position  
6 detector the geographical position of the portable phone, and that rings the portable phone  
7 when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called if the portable phone  
8 is within the defined geographical region.
- 1 14. The telephone system of claim 13 wherein the position detector comprises a  
2 global positioning system (GPS) detector.
- 1 15. The telephone system of claim 13 wherein the processor does not ring the portable  
2 phone when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and the  
3 portable phone is outside the defined geographical region.
- 1 16. The telephone system of claim 13 wherein the processor delivers a voice message  
2 when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and the portable  
3 phone is outside the defined geographical region.

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1 17. A method for controlling the operation of a portable phone, the method  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 (A) providing a position detector with the portable phone that detects geographical  
4 position of the portable phone;  
5 (B) detecting the geographical position of the portable phone using the position  
6 detector;  
7 (C) determining whether or not to ring the portable phone based on the detected  
8 geographical position of the portable phone when a call is received by the portable phone.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the position detector comprises a global  
2 positioning system (GPS) detector.

1 19. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of determining characteristics  
2 of a ring signal based on the detected geographical position of the portable phone when  
3 step (C) determines to ring the portable phone.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the characteristics of the ring signal include  
2 volume, type and tone of the ring signal.

1 21. The method of claim 20 wherein the type of the ring signal includes an audible  
2 ring and a vibration ring.

1 22. The method of claim 17 wherein step (C) does not ring the portable phone if the  
2 portable phone is in a predefined geographical region.

1 23. The method of claim 17 wherein step (C) rings the portable phone with increased  
2 volume if the portable phone is in a predefined geographical region.

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1 24. The method of claim 17 wherein step (C) rings the portable phone with a different  
2 ring tone if the portable phone is in a predefined geographical region.

1 25. The method of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:  
2 selecting stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact;  
3 dialing a first stored telephone number corresponding to the desired telephone  
4 contact when the portable phone is in a first defined region; and  
5 dialing a second stored telephone number corresponding to the desired telephone  
6 contact when the portable phone is in a second defined region.

1 26. The method of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:  
2 selecting stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact;  
3 dialing a first stored telephone number that corresponds to the desired telephone  
4 contact; and  
5 communicating the detected geographical position of the portable phone with the  
6 call to the first stored telephone number.

1 27. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of routing the call using the  
2 communicated geographical position of the portable phone to a second telephone that is  
3 the closest of a predefined group of telephones in physical proximity to the portable  
4 phone.

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1 28. A method for making a call on a portable phone, the method comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 providing a position detector with the portable phone that detects geographical  
4 position of the portable phone;  
5 detecting the geographical position of the portable phone using the position  
6 detector;  
7 selecting stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact;  
8 dialing a first stored telephone number corresponding to the desired telephone  
9 contact when the portable phone is in a first defined region; and  
10 dialing a second stored telephone number corresponding to the desired telephone  
11 contact when the portable phone is in a second defined region.

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1 29. A method for making a call on a portable phone, the method comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 providing a position detector with the portable phone that detects geographical  
4 position of the portable phone;  
5 detecting the geographical position of the portable phone using the position  
6 detector;  
7 selecting stored text that corresponds to a desired telephone contact;  
8 dialing a first stored telephone number that corresponds to the desired telephone  
9 contact; and  
10 communicating the detected geographical position of the portable phone with the  
11 call to the first stored telephone number.

1 30. A method for making a call on a portable phone, the method comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 providing a position detector with the portable phone that detects geographical  
4 position of the portable phone;  
5 detecting the geographical position of the portable phone using the position  
6 detector;  
7 assigning a telephone number to a defined geographical region;  
8 ringing the portable phone when the assigned telephone number of the defined  
9 region is called if the portable phone is within the defined geographical region.

1 31. The telephone system of claim 30 wherein the position detector comprises a  
2 global positioning system (GPS) detector.

1 32. The telephone system of claim 30 further comprising the step of not ringing the  
2 portable phone when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and  
3 the portable phone is outside the defined geographical region.

1 33. The telephone system of claim 30 further comprising the step of delivering a voice  
2 message when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and the  
3 portable phone is outside the defined geographical region.

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